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PATENT  
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IN THE U.S. PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Makoto ITO Conf.: 9464  
Appl. No.: 09/937,521 Group: 1652  
Filed: September 26, 2001 Examiner: N. NASHED  
For: CERAMIDASE GENE

REPLY UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

January 29, 2004

Sir:

In reply to the Office Action dated October 29, 2003, the following amendments and remarks are respectfully submitted in connection with the above-identified application.

**Amendments to the Specification** begin on page 2 of this paper.

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 4 of this paper.

**Remarks** begin on page 11 of this paper.